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LETTER DATED 4 NOVEMBER 1996 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF UGANDA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to transmit to you in the annex herewith a document dated 1 November 1996, which the Government of the Republic of Uganda issued as a statement, concerning a statement by the Hon. Prime Minister of the Republic of Zaire, Mr. Kengo wa Dondo, in which it was alleged that Uganda was involved in the fighting going on in the Republic of Zaire.

The Government of the Republic of Uganda would be very grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a Security Council document.

(Signed) Mathias Semakula KIWANUKA
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex

Statement issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Uganda on 1 November 1996

The Government of Uganda takes this opportunity to state its position on the current problem in Zaire as follows:

(i) Uganda has offered to help solve this problem and the Government of Zaire is aware of this fact.

(ii) Uganda has assisted Zairians who have been displaced by the fighting by providing them with safe passage through Ugandan territory to places they consider safer than Zaire.

(iii) We are unreservedly willing to have observers come to Uganda to verify that we are not all involved in the internal conflict in Zaire as it is being alleged by the Prime Minister of Zaire.

(iv) Uganda, which has spearheaded efforts to resolve conflicts in the Great Lakes Region by peaceful means is very sorry to see these sad developments and is deeply concerned about this unwarranted accusation.

(v) Uganda calls upon all the parties involved in the current conflict in Zaire to desist from any actions that can lead to the further escalation of this conflict.